

**MADERA COUNTY**  
**PHYSICAL THERAPIST**

**DEFINITION**

Under general supervision, to conduct professional therapy and administer a variety of treatment plans for physically and neurologically disabled patients in a California Children's Services Medical Therapy Unit; and to do related work as required.

**SUPERVISION EXERCISED**

May provide supervision over lower level Therapy Assistants and other staff providing assistance in the administration of physical therapy treatment plans.

**EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

Plans and performs physical therapy treatments for neurologically and physically impaired patients, including soft tissue mobilization, joint mobilization, gait training, and muscle reeducation through corrective exercises; consults with doctors and supervisors to determine treatment plans for each patient; administers tests such as manual muscle tests, joint range of motion, reflex testing, postural assessment, gait analysis, and functional mobility; schedules and administers evaluations at the Medical Therapy Unit and home assessments for equipment needs; attends appropriate clinics, management meetings, and case conferences to discuss patient status; evaluates and records patient's response from treatment and progress and reports any changes to doctor; evaluates and orders appropriate mobility equipment and orthotic devices as prescribed; instructs clients, family and caregivers regarding home exercise programs and equipment needs; may assist in training therapy assistants in the treatment of patients; may assist in monitoring and coordinating the work of lower level staff and students in administering physical therapy treatment programs.

**OTHER JOB RELATED DUTIES**

Performs related duties and responsibilities as assigned.

**JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

**Knowledge of:**

Principles and methods of pediatric physical therapy.

Laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures of physical therapy programs, services and treatment methods.

Skeletal anatomy and kinesiology.

Basic pathology and neurology involved in cerebral palsy and other disabling conditions, relative to the objectives of physical therapy.

Child growth and development.

Physical and psychological problems of physically disabled children and their families.

Design, use and care of orthopedic and therapeutic equipment and appliances.

***Madera County***  
***Physical Therapist (Continued)***

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**Skill to:**

Understand and interpret physician's orders and develop individualized therapy treatment plans.  
Provide effective physical therapy treatments and instructions to disabled patients and their parents, caregivers, teachers, and others responsible for assisting the patient in their therapy treatment plan.  
Evaluate patient needs and the effectiveness of orthopedic and therapeutic equipment and appliances.

**Ability to:**

Adapt various functions to the therapeutic requirements of individual patients.  
Gather information and prepare reports.  
Prepare and maintain accurate, concise case records and necessary reports.  
Communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing.  
Establish and maintain effective interpersonal relationships with patients, families, caregivers, coworkers and others contacted in the course of work.  
Exercise appropriate independent judgement and professional ethics.

**Experience and Training Guidelines:**

*Any combination of experience and training that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities would be:*

**Experience:**

One (1) year of full-time paid professional experience as a Licensed Physical Therapist.

**License / Registration:**

Current licensure as a Physical Therapist issued by the State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs - Physical Therapy Board.

**Special Requirements:**

*Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:*

Ability to sit, stand, walk, kneel, crouch, stoop, squat, twist, and lift 100 lbs.; ability to travel to different sites and locations.

**Effective Date:** June, 2003